

The Path

To Preparedness

This checklist will help you gather the information and resources you may need in case of a flu pandemic.

- ✓ Store a supply of water and food.
- ✓ Keep a current list of you and your families:

Medical History
Current medications
Medication allergies
Child's weight

- ✓ Ask you doctor and insurance company if you can get an extra supply of your regular prescription drugs.
- ✓ Talk with family members about how they would be cared for if they got sick, or what will be needed to care for them in your home.
- ✓ Volunteer with local groups to prepare and assist with emergency response.
- ✓ Get involved in your community.

Visit:

<http://www.pandemicflu.gov/>

<http://www.redcross.org>

What is Pandemic Flu?

A pandemic is a global disease outbreak. A flu pandemic occurs when a new influenza virus emerges for which people have little or no immunity and for which there is no vaccine. The disease spreads easily person-to-person, causes serious illness, and can sweep across the country and around the world in very short time.

It is difficult to predict when the next influenza pandemic will occur or how severe it will be. Wherever and whenever a pandemic starts, everyone around the world is at risk. Countries might, through measures such as border closures and travel restrictions, delay arrival of the virus, but cannot stop it.

Is There a Vaccine?

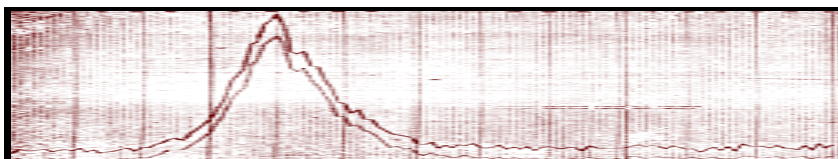
A pandemic vaccine cannot be produced until a new pandemic influenza virus emerges and is identified. Even after a pandemic influenza virus has been identified, it could take at least 6 months to develop, test and produce vaccine.

How Are We Preparing?

The effects of a pandemic can be lessened if preparations are made ahead of time. Planning and preparation information and checklists are being prepared for various sectors of society, including information for individuals and families. For further planning information visit <http://www.ready.gov/>

Pandemics Death Toll Since 1900

1918-1919	1957-1958	1968-1969
U.S.....500,000+	U.S.....70,000+	U.S.....34,000+
Worldwide.. 40,000,000+	Worldwide.. 1-2,000,000	Worldwide..700,000+



The massive mortality due to the influenza epidemic in October of 1918 in Kansas.
This is representative of what happened in every state in the nation.

Follow "The Path" for your monthly updates on
Preparedness Planning.

Published by the Office of Public Health Preparedness and
Response (OPHPR) of the Frederick County Health Department

